

METHOD FOR CONTROLLING PILOT POWER OF A CELL WITHIN A CDMA SYSTEM

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention generally relates to the field of communication systems. More specifically, the invention relates to a control of pilot power within a Code-Division Multiple Access (CDMA) system.

10 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Code-Division Multiple Access (CDMA) is a well-known spread-spectrum physical layer technology for cellular systems. Performance in a CDMA network is strongly affected by the traffic load and the user distribution per cell within the CDMA network. Typically, the pilot powers of each cell within the CDMA network are designed based upon expected traffic loads and measured fading conditions in the field. The pilot powers are then kept constant irrespective of any significant variance in traffic loads and/or fading conditions over time. The result can be a substandard performance of the CDMA network in terms of call drops during significant variations in traffic loads and/or fading condition.

Therefore, it would be desirable to have an adaptive pilot power control to improve the performance of the CDMA network under actual conditions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

25 One form of the invention is a method for controlling a pilot power of a cell within a CDMA network. First, a transcoder loss per frame within the cell is determined. Second, a cell performance ~~matrix~~ metric of the cell is computed when the transcoder loss per frame is equal to or greater than a threshold value. The pilot power is controlled as a function of the cell performance ~~matrix~~ metric.

30 A second form of the invention is a CDMA network comprising a cell and a base station. The base station is operable to determine a transcoder loss per frame within the cell. The base station is further operable to compute

a cell performance ~~matrix~~ metric of the cell when the transcoder loss per frame is equal to or greater than a threshold value.

A third form of the invention is a CDMA network comprising a cell, means for determining a transcoder loss per frame within the cell, and means
5 for computing a cell performance ~~matrix~~ metric of the cell when the transcoder loss per frame is equal to or greater than a threshold value.

A fourth form of the present invention is a computer readable medium storing a computer program for controlling a pilot power of a cell within a CDMA network. The computer readable medium comprises means for
10 determining a transcoder loss per frame within the cell, and computer readable code for computing a cell performance ~~matrix~~ metric of the cell when the transcoder loss per frame is equal to or greater than a threshold value.

The foregoing and other features and advantages of the invention will become further apparent from the following detailed description of the
15 presently preferred embodiment, read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings. The detailed description and drawings are merely illustrative of the invention rather than limiting, the scope of the invention being defined by the appended claims and equivalents thereof.

20 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an overview diagram of one embodiment of a cellular pattern of a CDMA network in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating one embodiment of a home cell of the CDMA network of **FIG. 1** in accordance with the present invention; and

25 **FIG. 3** is a flowchart illustrating one embodiment of a method for controlling pilot power within the CDMA network of **FIG. 1** in accordance with the present invention.

30 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENTLY PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

FIG. 1 illustrates a cellular pattern of a CDMA network 10 in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. The cellular pattern includes a plurality of cells 11-29. Each cell 11-29 has neighboring

cells forming a cell cluster. The following TABLE 1 lists each cell and its corresponding cell cluster:

TABLE 1

CELL	CELL CLUSTER
11	12-17
12	11, 13, 17-19, 29
13	11, 12, 14, 19-21
14	11, 13, 15, 21-23
15	11, 14, 16, 23-25
16	11, 15, 17, 25-27
17	11, 12, 16, 27-29
18	12, 19, 29
19	12, 13, 18, 20
20	13, 19, 21
21	13, 14, 20, 22
22	14, 21, 23
23	14, 15, 22, 24
24	15, 23, 25
25	15, 16, 24, 26
26	16, 25, 27
27	16, 17, 26, 28
28	17, 27, 29
29	12, 17, 18, 28

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Each cell 11-29 includes a base station (not shown) having conventional hardware and software for providing communication service within the corresponding cell. A description of the conventional hardware and software is not provided herein. However, those having ordinary skill in the art will appreciate various conventional methods and devices implemented by the base stations to measure a cell power, a traffic, a frame erasure, a plurality of frames, a transcoder loss per frame, a transcoder loss uplink, a

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transcoder loss downlink, and an average energy per chip per interference density measured on the pilot channel associated with the corresponding cell.

FIG. 2 illustrates the home cell 11 in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. The home cell 11 includes a base station 11a. In addition to the aforementioned conventional hardware and software, the base station 11a includes hardware, software or a combination of hardware and software for controlling a pilot power of each cell 11-29 within the CDMA network 10 in accordance with the present invention. **FIG. 3** illustrates a flowchart 30 that is representative of a method for controlling a pilot power of each cell 11-29 within the CDMA network 10 that is implemented by the base station 11a. In one embodiment, the base station 11a executes the flowchart 30 for each cell 11-29 over a fixed time interval (e.g., every 8 seconds). The flowchart 30 will now be described herein in the context of an execution of the flowchart 30 for the home cell 11.

During a stage S32 of the flowchart 30, the base station 11a determines if a transcoder loss per frame of the home cell 11 is less than a threshold value established by actual operational parameters of the CDMA network 10 as would be appreciated by those having ordinary skill in the art. If the base station 11a determines the transcoder loss per frame of the home cell 11 is less than the threshold value, the base station 11a proceeds to terminate the flowchart 30. As a result, the pilot power of the home cell 11 remains constant.

If the base station 11a determines the transcoder loss per frame of the home cell 11 is equal to or greater than the threshold value, the base station 11a proceeds to a stage S34 of the flowchart 30 to compute a cell performance metric for the home cell 11 and a cluster performance metric for the cell cluster associated with the home cell 11. In one embodiment, the cell performance metric of the cell 11 is computed in accordance with the following equation [1]:

$$CellPerformanceMetric_{11} = \left(\frac{CP_{11}}{T_{11}} \right) \times \left(\frac{FE_{11}}{F_{11}} \right) \times \left(\frac{TU_{11}}{TLD_{11}} \right) \times \left(\frac{Ec}{Io} Average_{11} \right)$$

[1]

In equation [1], CP_{11} is a measured cell power of the home cell 11, T_{11} is a measured traffic of the home cell 11, FE_{11} is a measured frame erasure of the home cell 11, F_{11} is a measured number of frames of the home cell 11, TLU_{11} is a measured transcoder loss uplink of the home cell 11, TLD_{11} is a measured transcoder loss downlink of the home cell 11, and $Ec/Io Average_{11}$ is measured energy per chip per interference density measured on the pilot channel of the home cell 11. The $Ec/Io Average_{11}$ can be based upon a Pilot Strength Measurement Message and a Power Measurement Report Message received from each communication device (e.g., a mobile phone) attached to the home cell 11.

The cluster performance ~~matrix metric~~ is an average of a computation of each cell performance ~~matrix metric~~ of each cell within the cluster. Thus, the base station 11a would communicate with the base stations of the cell cluster 12-17 to obtain the necessary measured parameters for the following equations [2]-[7]:

$$CellPerformanceMetric_{12} = \left(\frac{CP_{12}}{T_{12}} \right) \times \left(\frac{FE_{12}}{F_{12}} \right) \times \left(\frac{TLU_{12}}{TLD_{12}} \right) \times \left(\frac{Ec}{Io} Average_{12} \right) \quad [2]$$

In equation [2], CP_{12} is a measured cell power of the home cell 12, T_{12} is a measured traffic of the home cell 12, FE_{12} is a measured frame erasure of the home cell 12, F_{12} is a measured number of frames of the home cell 12, TLU_{12} is a measured transcoder loss uplink of the home cell 12, TLD_{12} is a measured transcoder loss downlink of the home cell 12, and $Ec/Io Average_{12}$ is measured energy per chip per interference density measured on the pilot channel of the home cell 12. The $Ec/Io Average_{12}$ can be based upon a Pilot Strength Measurement Message and a Power Measurement Report Message received from each communication device (e.g., a mobile phone) attached to the home cell 12.

$$CellPerformanceMetric_{13} = \left(\frac{CP_{13}}{T_{13}} \right) \times \left(\frac{FE_{13}}{F_{13}} \right) \times \left(\frac{TLU_{13}}{TLD_{13}} \right) \times \left(\frac{Ec}{Io} Average_{13} \right) \quad [3]$$

In equation [3], CP_{13} is a measured cell power of the home cell 13, T_{13} is a measured traffic of the home cell 13, FE_{13} is a measured frame erasure of the home cell 13, F_{13} is a measured number of frames of the home cell 13, TLU_{13} is a measured transcoder loss uplink of the home cell 13, TLD_{13} is a measured transcoder loss downlink of the home cell 13, and $Ec/Io Average_{13}$ is measured energy per chip per interference density measured on the pilot channel of the home cell 13. The $Ec/Io Average_{13}$ can be based upon a Pilot Strength Measurement Message and a Power Measurement Report Message received from each communication device (e.g., a mobile phone) attached to the home cell 13.

$$CellPerformanceMetric_{14} = \left(\frac{CP_{14}}{T_{14}} \right) \times \left(\frac{FE_{14}}{F_{14}} \right) \times \left(\frac{TLU_{14}}{TLD_{14}} \right) \times \left(\frac{Ec}{Io} Average_{14} \right) \quad [4]$$

In equation [4], CP_{14} is a measured cell power of the home cell 14, T_{14} is a measured traffic of the home cell 14, FE_{14} is a measured frame erasure of the home cell 14, F_{14} is a measured number of frames of the home cell 14, TLU_{14} is a measured transcoder loss uplink of the home cell 14, TLD_{14} is a measured transcoder loss downlink of the home cell 14, and $Ec/Io Average_{14}$ is measured energy per chip per interference density measured on the pilot channel of the home cell 14. The $Ec/Io Average_{14}$ can be based upon a Pilot Strength Measurement Message and a Power Measurement Report Message received from each communication device (e.g., a mobile phone) attached to the home cell 14.

$$CellPerformanceMetric_{15} = \left(\frac{CP_{15}}{T_{15}} \right) \times \left(\frac{FE_{15}}{F_{15}} \right) \times \left(\frac{TLU_{15}}{TLD_{15}} \right) \times \left(\frac{Ec}{Io} Average_{15} \right) \quad [5]$$

In equation [5], CP_{15} is a measured cell power of the home cell 15, T_{15} is a measured traffic of the home cell 15, FE_{15} is a measured frame erasure of the home cell 15, F_{15} is a measured number of frames of the home cell 15, TLU_{15} is a measured transcoder loss uplink of the home cell 15, TLD_{15} is a measured transcoder loss downlink of the home cell 15, and $Ec/Io Average_{15}$

is measured energy per chip per interference density measured on the pilot channel of the home cell 15. The Ec/Io Average₁₅ can be based upon a Pilot Strength Measurement Message and a Power Measurement Report Message received from each communication device (e.g., a mobile phone) attached to the home cell 15.

$$CellPerformanceMetric_{16} = \left(\frac{CP_{16}}{T_{16}} \right) \times \left(\frac{FE_{16}}{F_{16}} \right) \times \left(\frac{TLU_{16}}{TLD_{16}} \right) \times \left(\frac{Ec}{Io} Average_{16} \right) \quad [6]$$

In equation [6], CP_{16} is a measured cell power of the home cell 16, T_{16} is a measured traffic of the home cell 16, FE_{16} is a measured frame erasure of the home cell 16, F_{16} is a measured number of frames of the home cell 16, TLU_{16} is a measured transcoder loss uplink of the home cell 16, TLD_{16} is a measured transcoder loss downlink of the home cell 16, and Ec/Io Average₁₆ is measured energy per chip per interference density measured on the pilot channel of the home cell 16. The Ec/Io Average₁₆ can be based upon a Pilot Strength Measurement Message and a Power Measurement Report Message received from each communication device (e.g., a mobile phone) attached to the home cell 16.

$$CellPerformanceMetric_{17} = \left(\frac{CP_{17}}{T_{17}} \right) \times \left(\frac{FE_{17}}{F_{17}} \right) \times \left(\frac{TLU_{17}}{TLD_{17}} \right) \times \left(\frac{Ec}{Io} Average_{17} \right) \quad [7]$$

In equation [7], CP_{17} is a measured cell power of the home cell 17, T_{17} is a measured traffic of the home cell 17, FE_{17} is a measured frame erasure of the home cell 17, F_{17} is a measured number of frames of the home cell 17, TLU_{17} is a measured transcoder loss uplink of the home cell 17, TLD_{17} is a measured transcoder loss downlink of the home cell 17, and Ec/Io Average₁₇ is measured energy per chip per interference density measured on the pilot channel of the home cell 17. The Ec/Io Average₁₇ can be based upon a Pilot Strength Measurement Message and a Power Measurement Report Message

received from each communication device (e.g., a mobile phone) attached to the home cell 17.

Upon receipt of the aforementioned parameters, the base station 11a computes a cell performance matrix metric for each cell 12-17, and then
5 averages the computed cell performance matrix metrics to obtain the cluster performance matrix metric.

Upon computing the cell performance matrix metric of the cell 11 and the cluster performance matrix metric of the cell cluster 12-17, the base station 11a proceeds to a stage S36 of the flowchart 30 to determine if the cell
10 performance matrix metric is less than the cluster performance matrix metric. When the base station 11a determines the cell performance matrix metric is less than the cluster performance matrix metric, the base station 11a proceeds to a stage S38 of the flowchart 30 to conditionally decrease the pilot power of the home cell 11. Otherwise, the base station 11a proceeds to a
15 stage S40 of the flowchart 30 to conditionally increase the pilot power of the home cell 11.

In one embodiment, the home cell 11 is designed with a minimum level and a maximum level for the pilot power of the home cell 11 that are established by actual operational parameters of the CDMA network 10 as
20 would be appreciated by those having ordinary skill in the art. During stage S38 of the flowchart 30, the following condition [8] must be satisfied before the pilot power of the home cell 11 is decreased:

$$PP_{CURRENT} - X \geq PP_{MINIMUM} \quad [8]$$

In condition [8], $PP_{CURRENT}$ is the current level of the pilot power of the home cell 11, X is a number that is either a fixed decrement, a variable
30 decrement, or a decrement equal to a percentage of the current level of the pilot power $PP_{CURRENT}$, and $PP_{MINIMUM}$ is the minimum level established for the pilot power of the home cell 11. When the condition [8] is satisfied, the current level of the pilot power $PP_{CURRENT}$ is decreased by X .